

**Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., May 1, 1835,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

**TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Incomplete.

Washington, May 1, 1835.

*My dear son,* I have this moment received your kind letter of the 19th of april dated at the Hermitage. I am thankful to that all wise and overruling providence for his kind preservation of your health, and conducting you without injury, sickness or accident to our sweet home. I trust in him that he will preserve you in health and permit you to return hither in due season after arranging our concerns there and placing all things in such order as may not require your return untill your dear little family can accompany you. How delighted I am with the condition you inform me, you have found all things in on the farm. How pleasant to hear that our poor servants are happy and contented with their overseer, and that he feeds and cloaths them well and treats them with humanity—the progress Mr. Hobbs has made shews him to be a man of judg't, that he has reduced the hands to good subordination, and in doing this he has obtained their confidence and attachment—he now has a set of willing hands, who do their duty cheerfully, and one willing hand is really worth two who only does what labour he is forcibly compelled to perform. The forwardness of Mr. Hobbs, under all disadvantages shews that he has judgment as well as system—say to him that I am thus far delighted with his course and proceedings. I find he has pitched a large crop—it will require much attention in the spring to attend it. he must meet with no hindrance, but in case of need every aid from the house servants that can be given. the cotton land in a great measure is weedy, not having been cultivated in cotton and some

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lying idle, must be grassy, and it will not do to suffer your cotton to get grassy. I hope the corn will be sufficiently forward, to have one working before the cotton requires it, but Mr. Hobbs must keep an eye to the cotton and never let it get foul—the corn can be much easier cleaned than the cotton when small, from grass and weeds and will receive less injury. You have a heavy crop, and it will require great attention to the cotton and corn to have it clean when the harvest arrives, but your letter has given me every confidence in the judgement of Mr. Hobbs and if the season should be good I trust we will once more have a good crop on the Hermitage. How I am delighted to hear that the garden has regained its former appearance, that it always possessed whilst your dear mother was living, and that just attention is now paid to her monument. This is truly pleasing to me, and is precisely as it ought to be.

I am happy to hear of the good condition of my stock generally, but regret that the two yearlings, the Citizen filly out of the virginian, and Sackwemor out of the bagdad, are poor—you must give them a start to grow by good feeding with the springg grass—they otherwise will be stunted and never get proper size. Have the two stud colts (3 years old) trained and if the Crusader two year old is in good order have him broke and gently trained, to put him on his heels give him short breaks, say three hundred yards, and light galloping say one mile. twenty days will be enough for him, and his exercise can be given between the exercise of the others—this, if it can be done without injury to the crop, but the three year olds need not be kept in train more than thirty days, this will prepare them for a good training and race in the fall. . . .